



State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Kathleen Clarke Executive Director Lowell P. Braxton Division Director 1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210 PO Box 145801 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-5801 801-538-5340 801-359-3940 (Fax) 801-538-7223 (TDD)

December 18, 2001

Mr. Jerry Holliday Holliday Construction, Inc. 700 East Brown Canyon Road P. O. Box 502 Blanding, Utah 84511

Re: <u>Site Inspection, Holliday Construction, Inc., Lime Ridge Mine, M/037/081, San Juan County, Utah</u>

Dear Mr. Holliday:

On December 14, 2001, I inspected the Lime Ridge Mine west of Bluff, and a copy of the inspection report is enclosed. I noted a few problems that need to be taken care of, and there is one permitting issue that needs to be resolved.

- 1. On April 3, 2001, the Division gave conditional tentative approval to your mine plan. The condition was that you submit one complete and consolidated mining and reclamation plan volume. We have never received this plan.
- 2. Near the easternmost topsoil pile, there is some trash that needs to be removed. The plan says trash will be hauled away every night.
- 3. The plan indicates no fuel would be stored on site except for what is in the generator fuel tank. I found a fuel tank that would hold about 600 gallons, and it had some fuel in it. There is no berm or other containment around this tank, and it was not locked or otherwise secured. Unless your plan is changed, this tank needs to be removed.
- 4. The plan describes signs and a four-foot berm along portions of the county road to warn the public about the danger associated with the adjacent pits. There is a berm along the road, but it is not four feet high, and I did not see any warning signs.
- 5. You committed in the plan to place signs on the topsoil piles. Two of the piles have signs, but the one on the west side of the site does not. Figure 1 (see reference in the inspection report) shows this stockpile.

In the information we received for the notice of intention, you committed to seed the topsoil stockpiles. I could not determine whether this had been done, but there was little vegetation on these

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stockpiles other than weeds. Unless these stockpiles are going to be used soon for reclamation, they should be reseeded either immediately or next fall.

As discussed in the inspection report, I have other concerns about the site, but these will need to be checked again during another inspection.

Please call me at 801-538-5261 if I can answer any questions about the inspection or about what needs to be done.

Sincerely,

Paul B. Baker

Reclamation Biologist

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Enclosure:

cc: John Blake, SITLA

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